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Ministry of Health and Medical Education - Ministry of Industry and Mines- Iran Tobacco Company

Based on the Proposal No.438556 dated March 14,2007 by the Ministry of Health and Medical Education and by virtue of Article 18 of the Comprehensive Act on National Control and Campaign Against Tobacco ratified in 2006, the Board of Cabinet Ministers approved the executive bylaw of the Comprehensive Act on National Control and Campaign Against Tobacco as described below in their session dated September 23,2007:

Executive Bylaw of Comprehensive Act on National Control and Campaign Against Tobacco

Article 1- Throughout this Bylaw, the following terms are used in the following definitions:

- 1- Act: Comprehensive Act on National Control and Campaign Against Tobacco - ratified in 2006
- 2- Headquarters: The National Headquarters for Control and Campaign Against Tobacco
- 3- Publicity: Any activity or act, direct or indirect, for promotion, motivating and encouraging people to purchase and consume tobacco products
- 4- Packaging: Tobacco products supplied in packages such as box, carton, pack, tin and wrapper
- 5- Tobacco Products: Any material or product entirely or partly made of tobacco plant or its derivatives (except authorized pharmaceutical compounds used for cessation of tobacco consumption to the discretion of the Ministry of Health and Medical Education)
- 6- Tobacco Consumption: Any kind of consuming tobacco products including smoking, sucking, chewing or nasal and oral inhalation
- 7- Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs): Non-governmental public institutions and foundations including "association", "society", "center", "group", "assembly", "house" and "establishment" formed by a group or real or legal persons with due observance of relevant laws and regulations and which- to the discretion of the Ministry of Health and Medical

Education- pursue the objectives of preventing tobacco consumption and/or fighting against production, consumption and promotion of tobacco products as their main area of activity or included in their activities.

8- **Public Places:** Places used or visited by the public including sacred and religious sites, hospitals, polyclinics, theater halls, cinemas, public spaces in hotels and inns and guesthouses, restaurants, coffee shops and teashops, factories, museums, passenger terminals, large stores, cultural centers, sport facilities, public libraries, schools, universities and educational and research centers, means of public transport, governmental and public institutions and organizations, Islamic Revolution institutions, banks and municipalities and any other collective center or place

Article 2 - Any type of publicity for tobacco products is forbidden

Article 3- Using the trade name and trademarks of companies producing different types of tobacco products on other commodities which may be considered publicity for consuming tobacco products is forbidden.

Article 4- Supply and sale of tobacco products by authorized agents should not be done in a manner which represents promotion of tobacco products for the public.

Article 5- Grant of any aid, assistance and support- financial or non-financially producers, importers and exporters of tobacco products which may be considered publicity for tobacco products is forbidden.

Article 6- Import, production, distribution, purchase and sale of any promotional items and goods of tobacco products are forbidden. Any promotional items and goods to be detected will be dealt with as per regulations.

Article 7- In order to safeguard public health especially to protect people from unwanted imposed inhalation of tobacco smoke, consumption of tobacco in public places is forbidden.

Article 8- The responsibility for enforcing the prohibition of tobacco consumption in public places and other places named in the Act rests with the managers or employers or those in charge of the said places.

Article 9- Employers, managers and those in charge of public places are obligated to install warning signs informing the ban on consumption of tobacco products in proper places to be seen by all.

Article 10- Selling tobacco products via internet and automatic vending machines is prohibited.

Article 11- In case of uncertainty as to the age of the buyer, the seller should request identity document to prove the minimum age of 18 of the buyer.

Article 12- Supply and sale of tobacco products by real persons or legal entities without sale license is prohibited.

Article 13- The Ministry of Commerce should provide the Headquarters with the list of names of real and legal persons who hold sale license (authorized dealers) of tobacco products in accordance with Article 7 of the Act.

Note- The license of commercial agents of tobacco products shall be issued by Iran Tobacco Company based on the relevant laws and regulations.

Article 14- The Law Enforcement Department (Police) of the Islamic Republic of Iran is obligated to render necessary cooperation with the officers and inspectors of the Ministry of Health and Medical Education and the Ministry of Commerce in all executive stages of the inspection operations of public places and supply centers of tobacco products.

Article 15- All health Officers and other relevant officers involved in enforcement of this Act should send their reports to the competent authorities as the type of offence under this Act warrants.

Article 16- All tobacco products should be supplied or sold in packed form and should bear serial number and the special label of Iran Tobacco Company. Inscribing the phrase "For Sale in Iran" on all packages of imported tobacco products is mandatory.

Note 1- Selling tobacco products in bulk, loose form or out of pack is forbidden.

Note 2- Stores operating in free zones and special economic zones are also obligated to comply with the provisions of this Article.

Note 3- The Law Enforcement Department (Police) of the Islamic Republic of Iran should confiscate smuggled tobacco products in any place in the Country and deliver to Iran Tobacco Company. If agreed by the Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Iran Tobacco Company will package the said products with the specifications described in Article 16 herein and will sell as other products and the earned revenue will be remitted to the public revenues account.

Note 4- The detection remuneration of the officers of the Law Enforcement Department (police) and inspectors as well as the sale costs of Iran Tobacco Company will be paid from the said earnings.

Article 17- In order to prevent import of tobacco products, the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Ministry of Industry and Mines and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will make necessary arrangements with the neighboring countries and will send the report of their measures to the Headquarters.

Article 18- Iran Tobacco Company is obligated to comply with national standards in production and supply of tobacco products. Production and import of tobacco products in breach of standards set in the relevant laws and the present bylaw and related instructions is forbidden.

Iran Tobacco Company should determine the surface area of tobacco plantation based on the need of domestic factories with a good programming coordinated with the Headquarters and should prevent any increase in the area of tobacco cultivation in excess of the need of domestic factories with the help of Law Enforcement Department (Police).

Ministry of Agriculture Jihad and Ministry of Industry and Mines are obligated to study and enforce the gradual replacement of tobacco farming with other agricultural products in the fanning pattern of areas where tobacco is produced and processed in case the need to tobacco in domestic factories diminishes.

Note- Subsidizing the cultivation, growth and harvest of tobacco is not allowed in any manner.

Article 19- Up to two percent (2%) of the total tax mentioned in Article 8 of the Act is included in the annual budget of the Ministry of Health and Medical Education to be granted to organizations, institutions and societies and spent on achievement of the goals for controlling and fighting with tobacco consumption.

Note- The Headquarters will set and approve the regulations for giving aid to the nongovernmental organizations.

Article 20- Every three years, the minimum and maximum cash fine predicted in the Act will increase as proposed by the Ministry of Health and Medical Education and approved by the Council of Cabinet Ministers based on the official rate of annual inflation announced by the Central Bank.

Article 21- Organizations subject to Article 160 of the Fourth Economic, Social and Cultural Development Plan of the Islamic Republic of Iran are obliged to enforce the educational and promotional programs approved by the Headquarters for preventing and fighting with tobacco consumption.

Article 22- Ministry of Health and Medical Education should provide necessary facilities and laboratory equipment for assessing the materials and compounds diffused by tobacco products.

Article 23- Relevant organizations especially Iran Tobacco Company are obligated to provide the Headquarters with necessary information regarding the provisions of the present bylaw.

Article 24- The Secretariat of the Headquarters is stationed in the Ministry of Health and Medical Education and the Health Deputy in Ministry of Health and Medical Education will be the secretary of the Headquarters.

Article 25- Duties of the Secretariat of the Headquarters are determined as follow:

- 1- Necessary studies in regard to proposals worthy of discussion in the Headquarters and preparing their agendas
- 2- Follow up on the approvals of the Headquarters

- 3- Organizing national and provincial specialized workgroups and
Supervising them
- 4- Necessary coordination with other ministries and organizations for
Inviting them to take part in the meetings as the case might warrant.
- 5- Compiling and presenting performance report of the Headquarters
- 6- Any other work to be assigned to the Secretariat by the Headquarters
- 7 - Collecting and recording information and statistics
- 8- Coordinating the executive affairs related to the Act
- 9- Preparing and compiling instructions and proposing strategies to the
Headquarters

Article 26- Number of members, composition, duties and other regulations related to specialized workgroups will be defined in a circular to be approved by the Headquarters.

First Vice-President of the Republic- Parviz Davoudi

True Translation Certified

Tehran December 3,2007

The Instructions for Forming National Tobacco Control Workshops

According to the clause 3 of article 25 of the law, in order to provide precise and necessary information regarding the enforcement of the articles of the corresponding law:

- 1. Formation of work groups for enforcement of the law and to prevent smuggling of tobacco products (according to article 17 of the bylaw and article 6 and 14 of the law)**
- 2. Formation of work groups to write national standards for import of tobacco products (according to article 18 of the bylaw)**
- 3. Formation of work groups to write the regulations for granting sale's license of tobacco products (according to article 7 of the law and article 13 of the bylaw)**
- 4. Formation of work groups to write regulations for packaging and warnings of tobacco products (according to clause g and articles 2 and 5 of the law)**
- 5. Formation of education, research and health promotion groups (according to clause b of article 2 of the law and article 21 of the bylaw)**

Executive bylaw:

Attachment of health warnings on the packages of cigarettes and tobacco products

(Clause g of article 2 and article 5 of the national law for general control and fight against tobacco products)

In the Name of God

Executive bylaw:

Attachment of health warnings on the packages of cigarettes and tobacco products

(Clause g of article 2 and article 5 of the national law for general control and fight against tobacco products)

Introduction:

According to clause g and article 5 of the national law for general control and fight against tobacco the executive bylaw of the attachment of health warnings on cigarette and other tobacco product packages, domestic or imported, is as follows

The type and location of publication of the warning

Article 1- The warnings should be both visual and in writing and should be published on both front and back of the package or all of the main sides of cigarette or other tobacco product package. The health warnings and messages have to be clear and visible.

Article 2- The warnings should be published on the upper half of the cigarette package for maximum visibility.

Article 3-The warnings should be published so that opening the package should not impede the picture or the writing from being seen.

Font Size

Article 4- The health warnings should cover at least 50 % of each side of the cigarette or tobacco product package. The used letters should be big and bold. The font and colour of the writing should have maximum visibility and get attention.

Colour

Article 5- The visual warnings should not be in black and white, but in 4 colours. In case of the existence of writing in the warning the colour of the letters should be in contrast with the colour of the picture and background colour for maximum visibility.

Article 6- The background colour of the cigarette and other tobacco product packages should be light and in a way not to fade or reduce the visibility of the health warning picture on the mentioned packages.

Changing the warnings:

Article 7- The warnings published on the cigarette packages and the packages of other tobacco products should be changed every two years. There should be a 6 month time period for the sale and exhaustion of the stock of the packages with old warnings, in which time the packages with both kinds of warnings, old and new, will be available in the market.

Article 8- The choice of the image to be published on the package should be done with the approval of the council.

The Content of the Messages

Article 9- The messages should be chosen so that they will affect the large range of population. The use of different and diverse messages can increase effectiveness. The messages could include the following points:

- a) The health dangers that follow the use of tobacco
- b) Encouraging and suggesting quitting the use of tobacco
- c) The addictive nature of tobacco products
- d) The financial, social and environmental disadvantages of the use of tobacco
- e) The dangers of second hand smoking

Language

Article 10- The messages in writing should be in Farsi

The time of the publication of visual warnings

Article 11- The Ministry of Industry and Mining (Iranian Tobacco Company) has 6 months after the announcement of this instruction to publish the health warning and messages approved by the National Control and Fight against Tobacco Organisation on the packages of cigarettes and other tobacco products whether domestic or imported.

Sale of tobacco products

Article 12- Six months after the announcement of the health warning and messages to the Ministry of Industry and Mining (The Tobacco Company of Iran), the production and import of any tobacco products without the visual messages will be considered against the law. The deadline to completely stop the sale of the tobacco products without visual messages will be announced by the organisation.

Article 13- This bylaw has been provided in 13 articles according to clause g of article 2 and 5 of the Tobacco Law and has been passed in the meeting of National Council for Tobacco Control on 16/4/2008.



The use of tobacco causes incurable damages to eye tissues, the central nerves of the eye and eventually blindness.



Cigarettes are major causes of mouth and lip cancer. This cancer causes problem chewing and swallowing.



Tobacco use causes serious damage to mouth and tongue tissues and eventually cancer.



The smokers are twice as much in risk of getting different kinds of skin cancer



Exposure to tobacco smoked by parents and close people causes and intensifies respiratory diseases, asthma and middle ear infections.



Top picture:

Judge for yourself

Death

Life

Picture on the left:

Buerger's disease caused by smoking

Picture on the right:

Gum cancer cause by smoking